

CONCURRING OPINION IN ADVISORY OPINION 1995-16

of

COMMISSIONER JOAN D. AIKENS

While I continue to have major reservations regarding our standards for bestowing National Party Committee status on a political committee, I voted to approve the General Counsel's draft in Advisory Opinion 1995-16.

The U.S. Taxpayers Party has made significant strides in meeting the standards necessary to achieve National Party status since their last request in Advisory Opinion 1992-44. Many of the activities undertaken and accomplished by the Committee in only two years were, in my opinion, minimal activities necessary to establish National Party Committee status.

I support and even encourage like-minded individuals to join together to promote their particular ideology and philosophy on the multitude of issues facing our nation today. However, I am reluctant to bestow the imprimatur of "National Party Committee" on any and all political committees absent a clear, credible showing of a true National presence in the federal political realm.

In this particular case, I believe the U.S. Taxpayers Party has now met minimal requirements and thus I voted to approve Advisory Opinion 1995-16.

July 14, 1995